reacting a poly(trimethylene terephthalate) with 1,3-propanediol to obtain bis (3-hydroxypropyl) terephthalate and/or an oligomer thereof;

reacting the bis (3-hydroxypropyl) terephthalate and/or an oligomer thereof with methanol in the presence of a basic metallic salt capable of exhibiting an alkaline pH of from 8 to 14 and at a temperature of 50 to 450°C to produce an ester-forming monomer; and

isolating the ester-forming monomer while keeping the basic metallic salt in complete or partial non-neutralization.

15. (New) The process for producing an ester-forming monomer according to claim 14, wherein the ester-forming monomer is 1,3-propane diol.

16. (New) The process for producing an ester-forming monomer according to claim 14, wherein the ester-forming monomer is dimethyl terephthalate.

17. (New) A polymer obtained from the polymerization of at least 1 wt% of 1,3-propanediol containing acrolein in an amount not greater than 0.5 wt% and having a Hazen Color No. of 40 or less that has been obtained from the depolymerization of poly(trimethylene terephthalate), said polymer having a brightness-indicating L value of 75 or more and a yellow-indicating b value of 10 or less.

18. (New) A fiber, a film, or a shaped article formed of a polymer obtained from the polymerization of at least 1 wt% of 1,3-propanediol containing acrolein in an amount not greater than 0.5 wt% and having a Hazen Color value of 40 or less that has been obtained from the depolymerization of poly(trimethylene terephthalate), said polymer having a brightness-indicating L value of 75 or more and a yellow-indicating b value of 10 or less.